
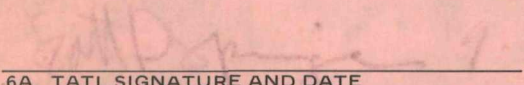


1. COST CENTER:  	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COMPLETION</b> FOR TDD TAT EMERGENCY RESPONSE, REMOVAL AND PREVENTION  <b>ROY F. WESTON INC.</b>	2. NO:  5-8606-03  <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETE <input type="checkbox"/> INTERIM
3. RESPONSE:  <p style="color: red; font-style: italic;">Submitted here with a letter report summarizing emergency re-          sponse activities performed at the A-Chemical Company facility          in Chicago, Illinois.</p>		<input type="checkbox"/> FORMAL REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> FORMAL BRIEFING <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 10px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5                467083           </div>		
3A. COST TO DATE: \$ 2000.00  3B. TOTAL COST TO CLOSURE: \$	DATE: 7/25/86	3C. ACTUAL TOTAL HOURS:
4. DPO ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED WITH EXCEPTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED		
5. COMMENTS:		
6. I CERTIFY THAT THE ATTACHED MATERIALS MEET AND COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUBJECT TDD.		
6A. TATL SIGNATURE AND DATE CORRESPONDING TO 3A. ABOVE  <div style="text-align: center;">  7-12-86         </div>		6B. TATL SIGNATURE AND DATE CORRESPONDING TO 3B. ABOVE
7. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH THE MATERIALS AND SERVICES SPECIFIED IN THE SUBJECT TDD WITHIN ITS ORIGINAL OR REVISED TIME FRAMES.     <div style="border-top: 1px solid black; text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">             (AUTHORIZING DPO SIGNATURE)           </div>		8. DATE:

A-Chem  
Chicago, IL



Suite 1501, Northbrook Office Court  
666 West Dundee Road, Northbrook, IL 60062 • (312) 498-9094

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE REMOVAL AND PREVENTION  
EPA CONTRACT 68-01-6669

Mr. Briand C. Wu, Acting Unit Chief  
Emergency Response Section  
Western Response Unit  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
11th Floor  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

May 5, 1986

TAT-05-F-00828

Re: A-Chemical Factory Fire, Chicago, Illinois  
TDD# 5-8601-11

Dear Mr. Wu:

On January 26, 1986, the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) was tasked by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to assist On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Briand Wu in responding to a fire at the A-Chemical Factory located at 1326 North Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois (Figure 1).

Subsequent to notification of the response at 1730 hours, TAT members Springer and Schultz prepared all necessary personnel protection, air monitoring, and sampling equipment. Upon arrival at 1900 hours, the TAT met with OSC Wu to gather information on site conditions.

The A-Chemical facility was observed from a distance and a site map was developed (Figure 2). The building was composed of two sections divided by a masonry wall. The western section was gutted by the fire and the eastern section was intact. Although the fire had been extinguished by the Chicago Fire Department, debris within the building continued to smolder.

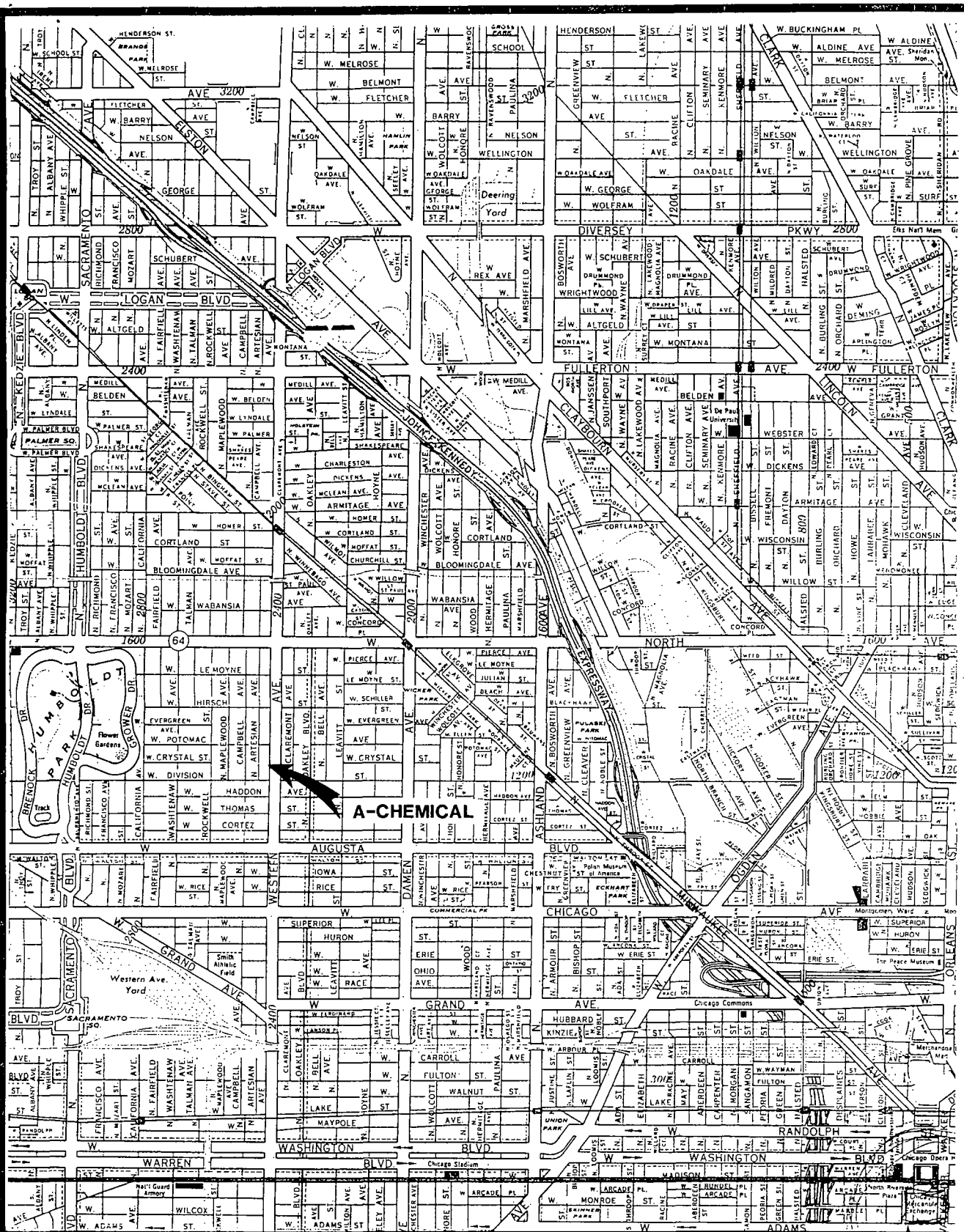
At 2115 hours, TAT members Springer and Schultz and OSC Wu donned Level B protection and proceeded to conduct perimeter monitoring with a combustible gas indicator (CGI), HCN monitox unit, and photoionization detector (PID). As no readings above background were detected, the TAT entered the eastern portion of the building while continuing to conduct air monitoring.

The area in the eastern section contained drummed material labeled as sodium cyanide, dichromic acid, phosphoric acid, muriel cyanide, sodium benzoate, and sodium bicarbonate.

Roy F. Weston, Inc.

SPILL PREVENTION & EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION

In Association with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., Tetra Tech, Inc., and ICF Incorporated



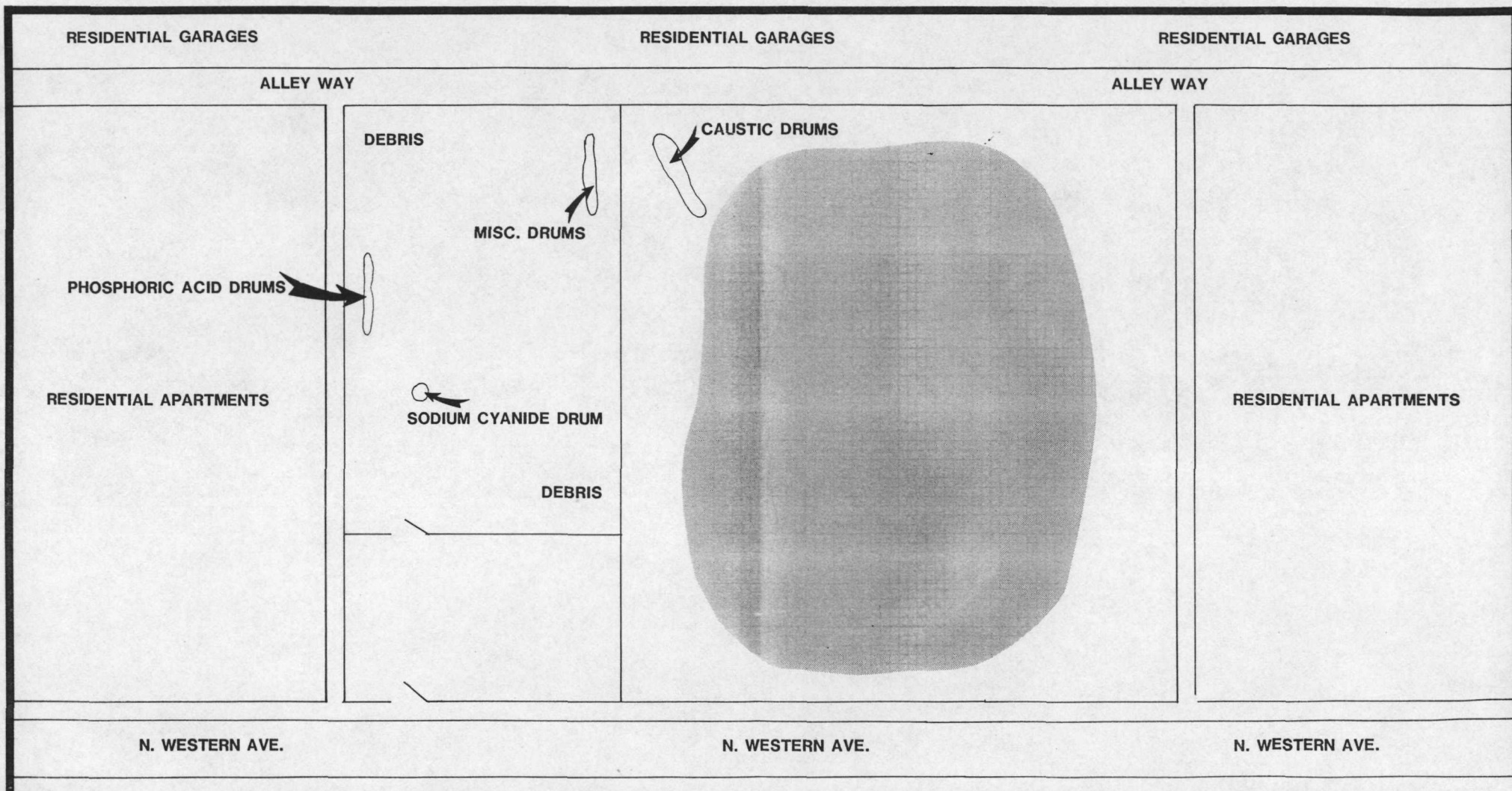
**FIGURE 1**  
**SITE LOCATION MAP**  
**A-CHEMICAL FACTORY FIRE**  
**CHICAGO, IL**

SCALE: 1"=0.3MI.

MAP ADAPTED FROM AAA







**FIGURE 2**  
**SITE MAP**  
**A-CHEMICAL FACTORY FIRE**  
**CHICAGO, IL**

NO SCALE

■ -BURN AREA

Mr. Briand C. Wu

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Within the burned area, drums labeled caustic soda and hydroxide were observed. Also identified were gas cylinders that typically contain propane. No readings above background were detected within the building.

After exiting the building at 2130 hours, the OSC and the TAT prepared to depart the scene for the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Section offices. After consultation with Mr. Robert Bowden (Chief-Western Response Unit), it was determined that the only action to be taken that night was to acquire security for the site. The responsible party was also notified to board up the building to restrict access and to initiate mitigative actions.

On January 29, 1986, the TAT was tasked to assist OSC Stephen Browning in monitoring a Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)-funded removal of the contaminated run-off produced from extinguishing the fire.

The ERCS subcontractor, O.H. Materials, Findlay, Ohio, was contracted to remove all contaminated run-off and debris from the area surrounding the facility. They were also to decontaminate the area, and upon approval of the Metropolitan Sanitary District (MSD) of Chicago, discharge the run-off into the sanitary sewer system for subsequent treatment and disposal at the Chicago Metropolitan Sanitary District.

On January 30, 1986, TAT member Curt Michols met with OSC Browning, and Messrs. John Renkes and Steve Brigner of O.H. Materials at the A-Chemical facility. After a request from OSC Browning to the City of Chicago Consumer Services Department, a front-end loader and operator were secured from the Department of Streets and Sanitation. The loader was used to remove the contaminated snow and ice from in front of the facility, along the surrounding side streets, and in the alley behind the facility. The contaminated snow and ice were consolidated near two sewer heads, located just south of the facility. Approximately 200 feet of high-pressure hose was supplied by the Chicago Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team to aid in melting the snow and ice and subsequent discharge into the sewer system. Due to darkness and falling temperatures, work was stopped until the following morning. On January 31, 1986, all of the contaminated snow and ice that had previously been collected was melted and discharged into the sewer system. On February 1, 1986, the sidewalk in front of the building, the alley behind the building, and the



Mr. Briand C. Wu

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side streets were washed using the high pressure hose. A "supersucker" vacuum truck was used to assist in the removal of the contaminated snow, ice, and run-off from behind the facility. Its contents, along with the additional wash water, were then discharged into the sanitary sewer system. All cleanup equipment and personnel were demobilized February 1 following the final rinse. The TAT maintained all CERCLA documentation which has subsequently been forwarded to the OSC. If you should require any further information or have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,

ROY F. WESTON, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Curtis R. Michols'.

Curtis R. Michols  
Environmental Scientist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott D. Springer'.

Scott D. Springer  
Technical Assistance Team  
Leader, Region V

CRM:amp

cc: B. Wu  
S. Browning